

REMARKS

Applicant has amended claim 57 to address Examiner's objection and respectfully traverses the Examiner's 35 U.S.C. Section 103 rejections based upon U.S. Publication No. 2003/0015208 (Lang '208), U.S. Patent No. 6,740,041 (Faulkner), and U.S. Patent No. 7,184,814 (Lang '814).

Examiner appears to assert that Lang '208 discloses a treatment or prescription method in a manner that, in combination with other references, renders the claimed inventions obvious. In particular, the Examiner notes that the 'Lang 208 reference discloses several measurements, including bone mineral density, movement patterns of joints, and the use of biomarkers. While Applicant agrees that these measurements are generally disclosed, Applicant further notes that Lang '208 also teaches that the disclosed diagnostic methods require the use of both bone imaging data and biomarker data. In contrast, the claimed methods require measuring bone marker concentration only after determining that the gait characterization is abnormal. This ensures that bone marker concentration measurements are not unnecessarily performed or performed too early in the diagnosis process. This, among other differences, provides an improved diagnostic method by only requiring the incremental expenditure of resources as necessary.

Accordingly, all pending claims now only provide for a bone marker concentration measure if the gait characterization measurement is abnormal. Applicant has reviewed the cited references and could not identify any teaching of conducting a bone marker concentration measurement only if the gait characterization measurement is abnormal.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of the pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,



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